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RHEOLOGY-MODIFIED THERMOPLASTIC ELASTOMER COMPOSITIONS AND ARTICLES FABRICATED THEREFROM

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Rheology-modified TPE compositions are prepared by peroxide modification of a melt blend of an EAO polymer or EAO in Alomer blend and a high melting polymer such as polypropylene or a propylene/alpha- ω -olefin copolymer. The resulting compositions have an elastomer-like phase, a non-elastomeric phase and certain physical properties that exceed those of a TPE composition that is not rheology-modified or of the same composition prior to rheology modification. The compositions can be used to make a variety of articles of manufacture, such as automotive parts, non-elastomeric parts, sealing membranes, and boat shafts via conventional procedures.